

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/895,914

Examiner

Robert M Stevens

Applicant(s)

BROMAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Interview held 11/16/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 6/29/2001
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 11/16/2004
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

The application has been amended as follows:

1. Cancel claims 1-9.

2. Claim 10 is amended as follows:

10. (currently amended) A computer implemented method for defining a formatting style in a target document, the method comprising the steps of:

determining the selection of the document element in the source document,  
the document element having an associated formatting style;

determining a paste point in a target document, the target document having a  
corresponding formatting style;

receiving an instruction to paste the document element in the target document  
at the paste point;

determining whether the corresponding formatting style and the associated  
formatting style are identical;

determining whether the corresponding formatting style has been used or  
redefined in the target document;

defining the corresponding formatting style to be identical to the associated  
formatting style, in response to a determination that the corresponding  
formatting style and the associated formatting style are not identical

and that the corresponding formatting style has been used or redefined  
in the target document;[[.]]

determining whether the corresponding formatting style belongs to a  
formatting style group;

determining whether a member formatting style in the formatting style group  
has been used or redefined in the target document;

applying the associated style to the pasted document element; and

renaming the associated style, in response to a determination that the  
member formatting style in the formatting style group has been used or  
redefined in the target document and that the corresponding formatting  
style and the associated formatting style are not identical.

3. Cancel claims 11-21.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a computer implemented method for defining  
a formatting style in a target document in which, inter alia, determinations are made as  
to whether a target formatting style belongs to a style group and whether a member of  
that style group has been used or redefined. If true, and the source and target  
formatting styles are different, then a paste operation is performed using the format of  
the source style, which is subsequently renamed.

The closest prior art, Microsoft Word (version 6.0) User's Guide (published by Microsoft Corporation, Document No. WB57923-0394, (c) 1994, pp. 36-45, 60-61, 65, 125-128, 150-152, 154, 167-170, 180-181, 189-191, 283-290, and 302), is directed to a cut and paste operation in which a source document element is reformatted in the style of a target document paste point only if the source document element does not include a paragraph mark. Additionally, the renaming of style formats in a style group is not addressed.

5. The Office has withdrawn all objections/rejections raised in the Non Final Rejection mailed 8/25/2004.
6. An updated prior art search was conducted. No prior art was found that would necessitate a re-evaluation of this allowance.
7. An Information Disclosure Statement (filed 6/29/2001) has been acknowledged and included with this communication.
8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert M Stevens whose telephone number is (571) 272-4102. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00 - 2:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H Feild can be reached on (571) 272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Robert M. Stevens  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2176

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**JOSEPH FEILD**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**